

ZULULAND ANTI-POACHING WING



AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND REACTION

03 October 2017

To whom it may concern

**OPPOSITION OF PLANNED ESKOM TRANSMISSION LINE ERECTION; MANYONI PRIVATE GAME RESERVE, KZN**

The Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing (ZAP-Wing) as well as Project Rhino, objects to the proposed erection of Eskom transmission and distribution power lines at Manyoni Private Game Reserve.

ZAP-Wing has been operating a fleet of fixed-wing and helicopter aircraft in northern KZN in support of rhino counter-poaching activities since 2012. Our operational area includes Manyoni Private Game Reserve. Our operations require extreme low-flying activities, and any tower or power line structure is of grave concern as it will greatly increase the threat of death or injury. Additionally the increased height that our aircraft will have to operate at in order to maintain a safe distance from these structures will have a negative impact on the effectiveness of our operations, and in turn will lead to a reduction in successful flights as we rely on visual detection of animals, suspects or any suspicious activity. Furthermore our airwing is about to commence night-flying operations in the area, and the threat of wire-strikes inside our reserves is a real and deadly concern.

We support Manyoni Private Game Reserve in opposing;

- proposed **sites 1-5** for the Iphiva Main Transition Substation; and
- proposed **Eastern** Iphiva-Duma Corridor

We sincerely hope that these objections are taken with the seriousness it deserves.

Sincerely

**Etienne Gerber**

Pilot: Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing

Tel: 033-342 2844

Websites: [www.projectrhinokzn.org](http://www.projectrhinokzn.org) | [www.zapwing.org](http://www.zapwing.org)

Email: [info@projectrhinokzn.org](mailto:info@projectrhinokzn.org)

c/o African Conservation Trust (Secretariat), 123 Jabu Ndlovu Street, Pietermaritzburg | PO Box 310 Linkhills, 3652

**FOUNDING MEMBERS**

African Conservation Trust \* Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (WWF) \* Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife \* Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) \* Magqubu Ntombela Foundation \* Phinda Private Game Reserve (& Beyond) \* Space for Elephants \* Thanda Foundation \* Thanda Private Game Reserve \* WESSA \* Wildlife ACT Fund \* Wildlands Conservation Trust \* Wilderness Action Group \* Wilderness Foundation \* Zululand Rhino Reserve \* Zululand Wildlife Security Initiative (ZWSI)

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

The Lawrence Anthony Earth Organisation \* KZN Directorate for Priority Crimes (HAWKS)

**Winner of the 2013 Rhino Rescue Award - Mail & Guardian Decade of Greening the Future Awards**